

Claim Amendments:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 2. (Withdrawn from Consideration)

3. (Currently Amended) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, comprising:

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer being a semi-rigid element;

CI a first releasably attachable unit that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a the second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second releasably attachable unit that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first releasably attachable unit;

an adhesive unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second releasably attachable unit, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object; and

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object, the means for attaching being a separate component from the backer/stabilizer.

4. (Original) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the means for attaching includes at least one of stapling, gluing, sewing, tying and taping the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

5. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the attaching means comprises:

a connecting element means for connecting to a portion of the first object to thereby attach the first object to the backer/stabilizer, the connecting element means being integrally formed as part of the backer/stabilizer.

6. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 5, wherein the connecting element means is one of: a protruding region for coupling to a cavity portion of the first object, and a cavity region for coupling to a protruding portion of the first object.

7. (Original) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, cardboard, and card stock.

8. (Currently Amended) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, ~~the first object including an affixing element having first and second ends,~~ the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element having first and second ends;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including ~~at least~~ a first opening and a second opening, the backer/stabilizer being one of a rigid and non-rigid element;

a first releasably attachable unit that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second releasably attachable unit that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first releasably attachable unit; and

C/ can
an adhesive strip that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second releasably attachable unit, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object,

end
(12)
wherein ~~at least one of the first and second ends~~ of the affixing element are is fitted through the first opening of the backer/stabilizer and the second end of the affixing element is fitted through the second opening of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein, after having been respectively fitted through the first and second openings, the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together to provide a coupling of the first object to the backer/stabilizer.

9. (Original) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, cardboard, and card stock.

10. - 11. (Withdrawn from Consideration)

12. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 9, wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a channel portion formed on the ~~bottom~~ second surface of the backer/stabilizer, for holding the affixing element in place.

13. - 20. (Withdrawn from Consideration)

21. (Original) A method for constructing an attachment device for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

attaching a backer/stabilizer to the first object;

attaching a non-releasably attachable surface of a first releasably attachable pad to the backer/stabilizer;

attaching a non-releasably attachable surface of a second releasably attachable pad to the second object; and

coupling respective releasably attachable surfaces of the first and second releasably attachable pads to each other.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the backer/stabilizer is attached to the first object by one of an adhesive material, glue, staple and sewing thread.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~21~~ 22, further comprising:

removing a peel-off protective cover on one surface of the backer/stabilizer prior to attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

24. - 38. (Withdrawn from Consideration)

39. - 42. (Canceled)

43. (Withdrawn from Consideration)

44. (Previously Added) The attachment mechanism according to claim 8, wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together in a region between the second surface of the backer/stabilizer and the back side of the first releasably attachable unit.

45. (Currently Amended) The attachment mechanism according to claim 12, wherein the first and second ends are ~~couple~~ coupled together and fitted within the channel portion on the bottom surface of the backer/stabilizer.

46. (Currently Amended) The attachment mechanism according to claim 44, wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are ~~not visible when the attachment device is viewed by a viewer facing~~ disposed against the first surface of the backer/stabilizer.

47. (Currently Amended) An attachment method for releasably attaching a first object to a second object and later to a third object, comprising:

affixing a backer/stabilizer to the first object by way of an affixing element that has first and second ends, the backer/stabilizer providing a stable backing for the first object, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening for receiving one of the first and second ends of the affixing element to provide a coupling of the affixing element to the backer/stabilizer when the first and second ends are tied together;

CL
cont
releasably adhering a first releasable adhering unit to the backer/stabilizer and to the second object, the first releasable adhering unit having first and second adhesive surfaces which correspond to top and bottom surfaces of the first releasable adhering unit, in which the first adhesive surface is releasably adhered to the backer/stabilizer, and in which the second adhesive surface is releasably adhered to the second object;

thereafter, deattaching the second object from the second adhesive surface of the first releasable adhering unit and deattaching the backer/stabilizer from the first adhesive surface of the first releasable adhering unit;

thereafter, releasably attaching a first adhesive surface of a second releasable adhering unit to the backer/stabilizer and releasably attaching a second adhesive surface of the second releasable adhering unit to the third object.

48. (Previously Added) The attachment mechanism according to claim 47, wherein the first and second releasable adhering units each corresponds to a double-sided releasable adhesive strip.

49. (Previously Added) The attachment mechanism according to claim 48, wherein the first and second releasable adhering units each includes a non-adhesive tab portion.

50. (Currently Amended) The attachment ~~mechanism~~ device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer is a plastic part, and wherein a portion of the affixing element is integrally formed within the backer/stabilizer by ~~melting~~ heating the backer/stabilizer while fitting the affixing element ~~through~~ onto the backer/stabilizer, ~~and then allowing the backer/stabilizer with the affixing element fitted therein to harden to thereby form a rigid connection of the backer/stabilizer with the affixing element.~~

51. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein the backer/stabilizer is formed out of plastic, the method further comprising:

melting the backer/stabilizer while at a same time fitting an affixing element onto the backer/stabilizer; ~~and~~

~~allowing the backer/stabilizer with the affixing element fitted therein to harden,~~
to thereby form a composite structure in which the backer/stabilizer is rigidly coupled to the affixing element and in which the affixing element is utilized to attach the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

52. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 51, wherein the affixing element is one of: a wire, an elastic band, a string, a plastic tie, and an adjustable ring.

53. (Currently Amended) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element having first and second ends, the affixing element configured to be affixed to the first object;

cl
cont
a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface facing the first object and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including at least one opening for receiving at least one of the first and second ends of the affixing element ~~so as to affix the first object to the backer/stabilizer when the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled to each other;~~

a releasably attachable/deattachable unit that has a first releasable attachable surface and a second releasably attachable surface opposite to the first releasably attachable surface,

wherein the first releasably attachable surface is releasably attached to the second surface of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the second releasably attachable surface is releasably attached to the second object, and

wherein the releasably attachable/deattachable unit is ~~adapted to be~~ releasably deattached from the backer/stabilizer and from the second object without causing any damage to the backer/stabilizer and to the second object.

54. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 53, wherein the backer/stabilizer has two openings in which the first end of the affixing element is fitted through one of the two openings and in which the second end of the affixing element is fitted through the other of the two openings, and

CI
CND
wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are tied together to form a closed-loop affixing element, and

wherein the first and second ends of the affixing elements are disposed between and thereby sandwiched between the backer/stabilizer and the releasably attachable/deattachable unit.
